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(21) International Application Number: PCT/FI99/00329 (22) International Filing Date: 23 April 1999 (23.04.99) (30) Priority Data: 980901 23 April 1998 (23.04.98) FI (71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): ORION CORPORATION [FI/FI]; Orionintie 1, FIN-02200 Espoo (FI). (72) Inventors; and (75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): LARMA, Ilkka [FI/FI]; Orion-yhtymä Oyj, P1 65, FIN-02101 Espoo (FI). HARJULA, -Maarit [FI/FI]; Lehtisaarentie 6 B, FIN-00340 Helsinki (FI). ANTILA, Salla [FI/FI]; Kauppalaantie 31 A 13, FIN-00320 Helsinki (FI). LEHTONEN, Lasse [FI/FI]; Seilimäki 20 H 24, FIN-02180 Espoo (FI). (74) Agent: ORION CORPORATION; Orion Pharma, Industrial Property Rights, P.O. Box 65, FIN-02101 Espoo (FI).		(81) Designated States: AE, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, CA, CH, CN, CU, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, NO, NZ, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD, SE, SG, SI, SK, SL, TJ, TM, TR, TT, UA, UG, US, UZ, VN, YU, ZA, ZW, ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, SD, SL, SZ, UG, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, CH, CY, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG). Published <i>Without international search report and to be republished upon receipt of that report.</i>
(54) Title: CONTROLLED RELEASE PERORAL COMPOSITIONS OF LEVOSIMENDAN		
(57) Abstract <p>The invention relates to peroral pharmaceutical compositions which release levosimendan in a controlled fashion with reduced occurrence of undesired effects. Levosimendan, or (-)-[[4-(1,4,5,6-tetrahydro-4-methyl-6-oxo-3-pyridazinyl)phenyl]-hydrazono]propanedinitrile, is useful in the treatment of congestive heart failure.</p>		